

Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 SCCT-01 SY-05 SS-15 NSC-05

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 PRS-01 FRB-03

PM-04 AF-06 /065 W

----- 057264

R 280915Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1285

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EINV, QA, US, OVIP

SUBJ: TRAVEL OF DAVID ROCKEFELLER TO MIDDLE EAST: QATAR

REF: STATE 40391

1. CHASE MANHATTAN CHAIRMAN DAVID ROCKEFELLER MADE THREE-HOUR STOP IN QATAR ON MORNING OF FEB 26. EMBASSY PROVIDED ROCKEFELLER AND PARTY WITH BRIEFING PRIOR TO HIS CALLS ON AMIR AND MINISTER OF FINANCE AND PETROLEUM.

2. BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE ROCKEFELLER GAVE US ACCOUNT OF HIS CONVERSATIONS. HE SAID AMIR HAD TOLD HIM THAT "DAYS OF GOQ'S SURPLUS ARE OVER" AND QATARIS WOULD BE SEEKING FINANCING ON INTERNATIONAL MONEY MARKET. ACCORDING ROCKEFELLER, AMIR EXPRESSED HOPE THAT CHASE COULD PLAY ROLE IN GOQ'S NEEDS AND ROCKEFELLER SAID HE INDICATED THAT CHASE CERTAINLY WOULD HAVE POSITIVE INTEREST.

3. ACCORDING ROCKEFELLER, HE IN TURN MADE PITCH TO AMIR THAT
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CHASE HANDLE PORTION OF GOQ'S SHORT-TERM MONEY THAT BEING PLACED

IN LONDON MARKET. AMIR RESPONDED THAT MATTER SHOULD BE TAKEN UP WITH MINISTER OF FINANCE, BUT ROCKEFELLER ASKED THAT AMIR PASS WORD TO MINFINANCE THAT SUBJECT HAD BEEN DISCUSSED WITH HIM.

4. ROCKEFELLER SAID THAT AMIR PRESSED FOR SIGNIFICANT USG AID TO PRESIDENT SADAT. (COMMENT: THIS ONE OF AMIR'S STANDARD THEMES--SADAT SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN QATAR FEB 27 ON AID SEEKING MISSION.) ROCKEFELLER SAID HE POINTED TO PROPOSED US AID FOR THIS YEAR OF ALMOST \$1 BILLION, WITH WHICH, ACCORDING ROCKEFELLER, AMIR SEEMED UNIMPRESSED BUT ACKNOWLEDGED IT WAS A START.

5. RE HIS CONVERSATION WITH MINFINANCE AND PETROLEUM SHAYKH ABDUL AZIZ, ROCKEFELLER SAID ABDUL AZIZ MUCH LESS DEFINITE THAN AMIR ON QUESTION OF GOQ'S NEED TO GO ON MONEY MARKET FOR FINANCING, SINCE "SURPLUS DAYS OVER." ACCORDING ROCKEFELLER, ABDUL AZIZ SAID GOQ WAS IN GOOD ENOUGH SHAPE TO SELF-FINANCE ITS DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER NEEDS FOR NEXT TWO YEARS OR SO, AFTER WHICH FINANCING WOULD BE REQUIRED.

6. RE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE, ROCKEFELLER SAID ABDUL AZIZ STRONGLY ADVOCATED PRICE INDEXING, BUT LISTENED CAREFULLY TO ROCKEFELLER'S EXPLANATION OF PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES. ABDUL AZIZ SAID HE ENCOURAGED SO FAR BY POSITIVE TONE OF DISCUSSIONS AT CIEC. ROCKEFELLER COMMENTED THAT HE WAS FAVORABLY IMPRESSED WITH ABDUL AZIZ WHO, THOUGH OBVIOUSLY INEXPERIENCED, SEEMED TO BE EARNEST AND TRYING TO GET HOLD OF HIS JOB.
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